

CTP Project Proposal

Project Description and Overview

The proposed project (TIP No. R-2574) is to widen US 158 to a 4-lane expressway from the Camden County line to the proposed Mid-Currituck Bridge. Interchanges are recommended at proposed NC 168 Bypass, Maple Community Center and NC 168. It is recommended that the alignment of the facility be brought south on the eastern end, connecting with NC 168 just south of the middle school, high school and library on NC 168.

The proposed improvements to US 158 will help to reduce congestion between Elizabeth City and other points west, and the Outer Banks. The CTP recommendation would provide for a LOS D or better along US 158 from the Camden County line to the NC 168 Interchange.

Linkages to Other Plans and Proposed Project History

The proposed project for US 158 is an important link to three recommendations in the Currituck County CTP. It directly connects to proposed NC 168 Bypass as well as the proposed improvements of NC 168 and of US 158, south of the proposed Mid-Currituck Bridge. In the 1999 Currituck County Thoroughfare Plan, this section of US 158 was recommended to be widened to multi-lanes.

The SHC Vision Plan was originally adopted by NCDOT on September 2, 2004 and updated on July 10, 2008. In this plan, US 158 is designated to be improved in Currituck County to Expressway standards from Camden County to NC 168 and improved to Boulevard standards from NC 168 to Dare County.

Land Use Patterns

There is a large multi-use community center planned along this section of US 158, in the Maple area. Currently the Currituck Airport is located here, along with an elementary school and Cooperative Extension building. Along with these existing facilities, the Maple Community Center will have a YMCA, many athletic fields, an animal shelter, playgrounds, a botanical garden, and other attractions. The community center is set to be complete by 2025. This community center is expected to encourage more commercial development along this area of US 158.

US 158 Proposed improvements from proposed Mid-Currituck Bridge to Dare County, Local ID: CURR0001-H

Identified Problem

Existing US 158 is projected to be near capacity by 2035 from Fisher Landing Road (SR 1124) to Snow Lane (SR 1115) and from Church Road (SR 1107) to Dare County. There is significant congestion on this facility during the summer tourist season. The primary purpose of improving US 158 is to relieve congestion on the existing facility such that a minimum of LOS D can be achieved and to improve mobility of the facility through Currituck County, consistent with the North Carolina Strategic Highway Corridor (SHC) Vision Plan.